[27th November 1928

Action taken on the adjournment motion regarding Bharathi's poems.

* 724-C Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has taken or proposes to take any action on the adjournment motion carried in the Council on 9th October 1928 regarding the seizure by the Police of the poems of Subrahmanya Bharathi; and

(*b*) if so, what it is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have issued instructions to the Police not to make any seizures till further orders. They do not propose to take any further action until the High Court has disposed of the application filed by the Superintendent of the Hindi Prachar Press, Triplicane, against the order of forfeiture issued by the Government of Burma.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Now that orders have been issued to suspend seizure of these books, will the Government return the copies seized already?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Not till the decision of the High Court is known."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, why the hon. the Law Member says that he cannot return the copies in view of the fact that he has issued orders not to make any more seizures till further orders?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is an argument."

Correspondence between this Government and the Burma Government regarding Bharathi's songs.

* 724-D Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any correspondence regarding Bharathi's songs between this Government and the Burma Government before the latter ordered forfeiture of the said songs; and

(*b*) if so, whether Government will be pleased to place that correspondence on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Action taken on the adjournment motion regarding Bharathi's songs.

* 724-E Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the adjournment motion carried in the Legislative Council on 9th October 1928 regarding the action of the City Police in forfeiting copies of the books containing the songs of the late Mr. C. Subrahmanya Bharathi;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to cancel the order of forfeiture and return the books to the publishers; and

(*c*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) to (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 724-C.